EPITAPH To A Week

By LARRY POWELL

WHEN THE Texas City Council of the Arkansas Board of Directors met, most people expect something funny to happen.

When R. W. Bonesteel of the American Transit Corp., met with both the council and the directors last week concerning the fate of the bus system in Texarkana, even a few of the elected officials had to snicker.

FOR ONE THING, Dr. George Dugan of the Texas City Council quizzed Bonesteel thoroughly concerning the service, deciding eventually that most passengers formerly hauled by the bus system were either domestic help or "welfare-handout passengers who are going to cash those checks no matter how much it costs or what it takes to get there."

Then Dr. Dugan fired this shot. "He's (Bonesteel) answering all the questions tonight that we might have payed somebody $30,000 to answer with a super-study." Both sides of the city winced.

JACK TRIGG, the Arkansas councilman known for rarely letting a punch line fade away, on his way out of the joint session leaned over to several reporters, and, motioning to Texas councilman Bill Thompson, an avid supporter of the ban dirty movies drive, chuckled, "When Bill wants to know where I've gone, tell him I've gone to see ——— (a dirty movie)."

BONESTEEL got a few laughs on his own when he told the joint meeting,

"Years ago Terre Haute, Ind., and Schenectady, N. Y., were household words. They dropped their transit systems and you've never heard of them again. This could happen to you if you drop the transit system. There is a stigma attached to a town that does not have a transit system."

IT'S BEEN suggested that some enterprising Texarkanian with a good sidewalk surfboard and some free time challenge the Texarkana, Tex., ambulance service to the "First Annual Texarkana-to-Juneau International Shadetree Mechanic Race". The original suggestion was to send the race along a Texarkana-to-Metlakatla route since Metlakatla is the southern-most mainland Alaskan city and would give the ambulance a minimum of highway time, but he Juneau route would take the ambulance nearer more authorized auto repair shops and a husky kennel where one might purchase a brace of sled dogs.

The progress of the city's search for new ambulances will be revealed at Monday night's council meeting, if the guy who is paid to unlock the door at city hall can catch a ride to work.

A TEXARKANA lady, after discovering that she is going to be another for the first time, made her first official visit to the doctor and found that she's just a little bit overweight.

"But, doctor," she protested after he forcefully explained that she'd just better lose some weight, "I'm supposed to be eating for two people now."

"What have you been doing all along?" he fired back, not quite delicately.

The lady claims she's now eating for just one person and that one person is about to starve to death. Her husband lost seven pounds during the first week of his wife's diet.

IN SPECIAL ELECTION

Hope Voters to Select Government Form

By BOB WEST
State Editor

HOPE, Ark. — It's anybody guess which route Hope will go in form of city government.

Although voter registration has been picking up, there is no apparent excitement over the election Tuesday to decide whether to reorganize the city under the mayor-council form of government.

No one has been preaching on a street corner and whatever opposition to the city's present city manager system there may be is unorganized. Homer Kennedy, local plumber, found enough dissatisfaction to secure the required signatures necessary to call the election by petition.

Some local observers say there is an unknown number of "common people" who feel a change is needed. They note the general malaise with taxation, high costs of living and of government, and the mumbling, rumbling of "we need a change" without certainty of what is desired to replace the existing system.

In short, most observers feel, it is a matter of some being opposed to existing city policies rather than being strongly for the mayor-councilman form, which was replaced in 1957.

Few ill venture a guess just how strong the opponents of the present city government are. The last to hazard a guess would be Garland Medders, city manager for 13 years ever since Hope became the first city in Arkansas to adopt the city manager system.

While words of opposition appear in audible, strong financial support for the existing system have come from industrial and business sectors of the city.

Regular ads in the local paper by the "Committee for Stability in City Government" laud the "solid, stable, efficient city manager form of government" and disparage the old mayor-council type.

"Twelve years ago, the city was in debt and growing deeper in debt each year — the bonded indebtedness was $765,000," wrote Roy Anderson, former city official under the old form of government. Today, according to Leonard Ellis and George Frazier, publicity chairmen for the committee, the city has "a half million dollars in savings deposits drawing more than $20,000 per year interest."

City board of commissioners and businessmen alike speak in glowing terms of the accomplishments of Medders in bringing city finances to a point where in 1969 the city could spend a record $700,000 for municipal improvement and for 1970 have a million dollars allocated for more improvements. A large part of this capability is credited to the revenues from the city's electrical system, which Medders manages along with his post as city manager.

"Our electrical system has been rebuilt altogether," Mayor Frank Douglas said. "And a 12-inch water line has been extended in all directions to the city limits and further."

A major project currently underway is drilling three new wells and extending lines to an industrial area north of Hope near the city airport.

These expenditures, however, are a source of opposition among some residents, who contend that city policies are not as responsive under an "efficient businesslike" regime as they would be in officials were elected.

The city's streets are frequently cited. This system, handicapped by bottlenecks on Highway 67 and railroad tracks cutting through the heart of town on several sides, is recognized as a major problem.

Supporters of the city manager system point to the recently completed Sixth Street east-to-west artery and say nearly one million dollars has been spent on streets over the past three years. They also note that a master plan would have included pavement of other such arteries but that voters defeated the bond proposals that was to finance this plan.

Some of the opposition has been directed against Medders, who is appointed by the seven-member city board of commissioners and serves at their pleasure.

James H. Pilkinton, city attorney, points out that four of the commissioner posts will be up for grabs in the November general election. "Any persons who want to make their influence felt don't have to tear up city government to do it," Pilkinton said. "They can run" for these four positions."

The attorney pointed out that if these forces of opposition brought in four new commissioners they would be in a majority and be able to change policies. "The board of commissioners determine policies and the city manager is only the executive officer who carries the policies out," the city attorney said.

If the mayor-council government is voted in, the city would revert to use of the ward system, Pilkinton said, by which eight councilmen — two from each of four wards — would be elected. Also the mayor, city clerk, treasurer and city attorney would be elected. These positions are now appointive except for the mayor who is chosen from among the seven commissioners. Commissioners now run at large.

Elections for mayor, council and other positions would come up in November, the same time as commissioners elections are to be held if the system is unchanged.

Durante Doing OK

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) —Jimmy Durante was reported "feeling fine" Saturday in St. John's Hospital where he was taken a day earlier after collapsing following a Las Vegas stage show.

The durable, 77-year-old comic collapsed Thursday night after he left the stage at the Flamingo Hotel on The Strip at the Nevada gambling and entertainment center.

His personal doctor, Dr. John Eagan, said the cause was either an infection or chemical imbalance of the inner ears, causing a loss of equilibrium. He said further tests would be made but that Durante probably would be released from the hospital early in the week.

"He's feeling fine this morning and he has no dizziness," the doctor said.

Durante had a similar incident in Phoenix, Ariz., several months ago when he fell and struck his head. He was back in action in several days.

TEXAS PAINTERS

1 Saved as 2 Plunge

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — A painter, plunging down the face of a television station tower toward almost certain death, was saved Saturday when his leg jammed into an opening in the structure. His partner fell to his death.

The surviving painter, hanging head down 120 to 150 feet from the ground, grabbed the tower and clung to it, crying for aid.

His foreman, John Duncan raced up a small ladder, uprighted the injured man and lashed him to the tower until careful rescue plans could be made.

The man whose life was saved is Harold Boley, 28, of Dallas. His left leg — the one which plunged into the opening — was broken between the knee and ankle. He suffered probable internal injuries.

The dead man was H.L. Bingham of Cleburne, in his 20s.

The 1,000-foot tower is that of KAUZ-TV, Channel 6. It is made of three poles lashed together by crossties. From even a short distance it appears to be one tall, thin structure.

Authorities at the scene said the two men had started painting from the top and had reached about the 250-foot level when they decided to stop.

The foreman, Duncan, started to lower them in their harnesses, using a winch and cable on a truck. The cable worked out of its guides and bunched up. The men on the tower had been standing on a tiny catwalk, and when they put their weight on the cable they fell 20 feet as the bunched-up cable ran free.

The fall jerked Bingham out of his harness and he fell well over 2000 feet, landing atop a small transmitting building and bouncing to the ground.

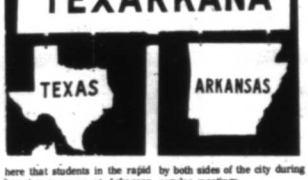
Boley fell about 70 feet, authorities said, before his leg plunged into the opening and stopped his fall.

Duncan and two firemen climbed the ladder and placed another harness around Boley, and a winch lowered him.

LOWERED TO SAFETY — A Dallas, Tex., man is being lowered to the ground after being trapped on a 1,00-foot television tower in Wichita Falls, Tex., Saturday for more than two hours. His partner fell to his death from a platform about 220 feet from ground. (AP Wirephoto)

IN THE TWIN CITIES

Week in Review



An Expansion project that would have seen approximately $60,000 spent in Bramble Park on College Hill was scrapped Monday night when a group of citizens appeared at the Arkansas Board of Directors meeting to protest the closing of Fulton Street.

City Directors voted not to approve the plan which would require the closing of the street so a baseball diamond could be moved to what Model City planners called "a better location."

The Board of Directors also passed a resolution requesting the Office of Economic Opportunity to withdraw the Vista workers from Miller County, and a resolution urging all Texarkana movie house operators to refrain from showing obscene movies within the city.

Different Opinions marked a controversy on the Texas side this week as to the condition of the ambulance operated by the Texas Fire Department.

Ambulance attendants said the vehicles were in bad repair and "unsafe." However Dan Hall, supervisor of maintenance for the city, said "I wouldn't be afraid to get in any of the ambulance and drive to Alaska."

The City Council met in special session Tuesday night and voted to purchase some new ambulances.

Federal Evaluators were investigating a report this week here that students in the rapid learning program at Arkansas High School had been coached on tests by the contractor.

The evaluators are trying to determine how much alleged "teaching to the tests" may have influenced advancement by the students, a spokesman for the schools reported.

City Bus Services was endangered here this week after both the Texarkana Ark. Board of Directors and the Texas City Council refected three "take it or leave it" proposals by the American Transit Corp. of St. Louis, Mo., who own and operate the Twin City Transit Corp.

However a 10 cent fare hike has apparently saved the bus service. The agreement was made Friday during last minute negotiations between city officials and bus company executives. The verbal agreement is subject to approval by both sides of the city during regular meetings.

An Office Complex to house the corporate headquarters building for Howard-Gibco Corp., will be the first building on a 100 acre development to be known as Summerhill Park, it was announced here this week by Jim Landrey, Texarkana businessman and Jasper Howard, president of Howard-Gibco.

The area, located at the intersection of Summerhill Road and Interstate 30, is the first business and professional park in the Four States area and will be similar in nature to Dallas' Brook Hollow District and Empire Central, a spokesman said.

The Howard-Gibco complex is expected to be completed late this year or early in 1971, Howard said.

Ballot Drawing in Miller

Candidates for Miller County offices will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday to draw for places on the August 25 ballot, according to John B. Cheatham, chairman of the Democratic committee here.

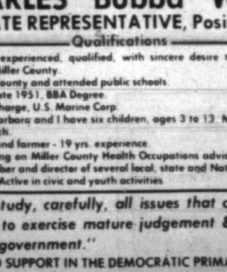
Offices ranging from precinct committeeman and constable to state senator are involved in the drawing.

The committee will also approve a list of judges and clerks who will serve in the primary election.

Harrison Grace, secretary of the Democratic committee, has mailed notices of the Tuesday meeting at the Miller County Court House to all members of the party organization as well as the candidates.

Candidates were advised that they could either appear in person or send a representative to draw for a ballot position.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT



CHARLES "Bubba" WADE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE, Position 2

Qualifications

- 41 years old, experienced, qualified, with sincere desire to represent all the the people of Miller County.
- Born in Miller County and attended public schools.
- College Graduate 1951, BBA Degree.
- Honorable Discharge, U.S. Marine Corp.
- Family man! Barbara and I have six children, ages 3 to 13. Member of St. James Episcopal Church.
- Business man and farmer - 19 yrs. experience.
- Currently serving on Miller County Health Occupations advisory committee, and an active member and director of several local, state and National health related organizations. Active in civic and youth activities.

"I pledge to study, carefully, all issues that come before the legislature, & to exercise mature judgement & good business in YOUR state government."

YOUR VOTE AND SUPPORT IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY, AUGUST 25th will be greatly appreciated.

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Charles O. Wade, Jr.

TO TEXARKANA, TEXAS,
REAL PROPERTY OWNERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 1011 F REVISED CIVIL STATUTES OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AND THE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 28, 1970 at 7:00 P.M. AT THE STUDENT CENTER OF TEXARKANA COLLEGE IN THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING CHANGES AND REVISIONS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING DISTRICT MAP WHICH WAS PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS ON OCTOBER 28, 1941. STUDIES BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION INDICATE THAT AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES TO THE ORIGINAL ORDINANCE MAKE IT APPROPRIATE TO REVISE AND ADD TO THE ZONING REGULATIONS.

A COPY OF THE PROPOSED REVISED ZONING ORDINANCE AND PROPOSED ZONING DISTRICT MAP MAY BE EXAMINED AT THE CITY HALL, ROOM 101, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, FROM JULY 14, 1970 THROUGH JULY 28, 1970.

HELEN B. TALBERT, CITY SECRETARY
TEXARKANA, TEXAS

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Texarkana, Texas at the office of the Director of Finance, in the City Hall of Texarkana, Texas until 2:00 PM, July 21, 1970 for the following: 1 each Base Station, 5 each — Mobile Units.

Proposals should be in accordance with the City of Texarkana specifications, copies of which may be obtained at the City Hall Director of Finance Office. All bids should be clearly marked on the outside of the sealed envelope Police Radio Equipment. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any formalities.

CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS
BY: John Hutchinson
Director of Finance

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EXPERT MOTOR TUNE-UP
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• Timing, carburetor, compression checked
6-CYL. 8.88
8-Cyl. 5.88
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Installation available
DELUXE SHOCK ABSORBERS GIVE YOU A SMOOTHER, SAFER RIDE
Deluxe give you constant car control; dampen excessive movements of car's springs. EACH 3.44
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